

## POPULAR OBSERVATIONS.

SOUTHERN CHIVALRY IN THE SADDLE.  
AFRAID TO ARREST THE GUILTY THEY MURDER  
THE INNOCENT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: No doubt you saw an account of the riot in Jesup, Wayne County, Ga., on Christmas. If you read the account of it in "The Savannah Morning News" you will notice that they blame my husband, J. W. Ryan, with being a party to it by talking to the negroes about their rights, etc. They also try to make it appear that my husband is a man of no character, and that he was discharged from the service of the Savannah, Florida and Western Railroad. All of these charges are lies. He had no knowledge of the riot, add no hand in it. His character and habits are of the best. He does not use liquor in any way, and instead of running around gambling houses and saloons, comes home at night. He was chief of special service on the Savannah, Florida and Western Railroad for nearly five years, and I have letters from his employers showing that he resigned on account of my poor health at that time. Having given you this brief sketch of my husband's life, I will now give you the facts pertaining to the said riot, and let you judge if he is guilty in any way.

On Christmas morning, between 10 and 11, my husband went downtown to get his mail. He had been gone about fifteen minutes, when he came running back to the house, saying that he had heard that "Bob" Brewer, a negro desperado, had just shot and killed Mr. Leggett, the marshal, and his posse. He told me to get in the house, as the negroes were all drunk, and he was afraid there was going to be serious trouble. My father, mother, and myself begged him to stay in the house and protect us, in case the negroes should raise a riot in town; besides, we told him there were enough guns after "Bob" Brewer and the negroes who had joined him to capture them, for as soon as "Bob" Brewer shot the officer, he, with three or four other negroes, ran for a swamp about one and one-half miles from town. My husband then said he would remain with us. He kept in the house all day, except when he went with me to Mrs. F. L. Brown's, who lives in the next house, to find out if "Bob" Brewer had yet been caught, and in the evening went with me to see Marshal Leggett, who was not killed, but wounded in both legs.

That night, about 8 o'clock, a body of armed white men came to the house, swearing to kill my husband because he was a Republican. They told him to come out, as he was as bad as the negroes, and that they had said they intended to kill every negro and Republican in the place. They told him to come out, but he refused to do so. Then they told him he must leave town, as he was in the same boat with the negroes, and himself and myself were sitting in the room. I heard talking outside our window. I got up and pulled the hall lamp, and just as I did so the front door was burst in. A body of negroes rushed in to kill my husband's life. My husband made his way through the back entrance, and I have not seen him since, and for all I know they have killed him and put his body in some swamp. The only crime my husband had committed was that he was a Republican, and he was Henry Wilson, the postmaster in Jesup, removed, and his brother-in-law, Thomas C. Jesup, appointed.

I have told you the truth, and nothing but the truth in this matter. I am the widow of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Dupson, Mrs. F. L. Brown, Misses Mary and Sadie Glover, Judge Frost, and even Marshal Leggett and wife. After the negroes had left, they were all over the town shooting at every negro man they could see. They murdered three or four during the night. When they would go to a negro's house and could not find a negro man, they would shoot at the house, and the wife and children run out. They would then go to the jail and took out a negro boy, who was arrested that day and killed him. They were too cowardly to go into the swamp which had been made, and his gang of negroes to town and murdered and beaten innocent people who had nothing to do with the riot. —MRS. J. W. RYAN.

THE DEADLY COUPLES.  
SHOCKING STATISTICS OF THE SLAUGHTER OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: Within a month four or five men were instantly killed by the deadly electric currents in badly insulated wires. This startled the people, and every paper in the city felt called upon to protest against the danger. This is all right and commendable.

Now will you allow me to bring before your readers some facts, occurring at the same time these men were killed, so startling that the death of those men seems to sink into comparative insignificance. Between October 10 and November 22, just passed, there were in this Nation 160 railroad employees killed and 136 maimed, some of them so badly that they will be helpless cripples for life, making a total of 296. This many by actual count, as taken from "The Railway Age"—and further, it is safe to say, this number, great as it is for one short month, does not give all.

But the main object of this writing is to call attention to the astonishing fact that fifty-nine of these forty, of whom were killed, and of the other nineteen most suffered the loss of one or more limbs—came to their death and loss of limb as unnecessarily and with less excuse than did those men. These fifty-nine young men, brave and faithful as they were, met their fate in coupling cars with the old form of coupling and by the use of the old hand-brake, when it is now known beyond all question that there are safety-couplers and power-brakes which, if put to use, would to a great extent, if not fully, prevent such fearful waste and loss of limb. It cost little more to make the safety-coupler than it costs a little more money to put automatic-couplers and brakes on freight cars.

Let me again repeat that so far as the awful truth can be known, the hand-brake, the old coupling, and the single-stirrup, brave, faithful young men, between October 10 and November 22, almost an average of two a day; and, as we saw above, were all the facts known; it would be at least as safe to say that all of these men, and them only, were killed by "brake-men" and the public do not realize the awfulness of the reality.

That automatic-couplers and brakes on freight cars would prevent, in a great measure, this wholesale slaying of men, out of the 296 cases, we well know, if ever, hear of a brakeman being killed, hand-coupling or brakes on passenger trains.

L. I. COFFIN.  
Mt. Dodge, Iowa, Dec. 28, 1889.

POLITICS IN THE W. C. T. U.  
VIGOROUSLY PROTESTED AGAINST BY SINCERE TEMPERANCE WORKERS.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: The recent attacks that have been made by members of the W. C. T. U. on the Vice-President of the United States, and more recently on Mrs. Harrison, are to be deplored. Reports are started and immediately, without investigation, they are spread eastward throughout the land, and statements not verified by facts are made intended to damage the reputation of those who should have our respect. At the recent convention of the W. C. T. U., in Chicago, Vice-President Morton was publicly accused of having established in connection with an apartment house which he owns a bar. It is probably the fact that he had nothing to do with the matter personally. And later Mrs. Harrison is said to have treated the Pan-American delegates to punch, and, although denied, the rumor is believed by those anxious to do so and used as a weapon to injure the good Christian woman who presides in the White House.

The reason is evident. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union has allied itself to a political party, and is indulging in political methods. When the Union first started, looking to God for guidance, relying on prayer, it became a great power for good, and had it continued in this spirit its influence would have been boundless, but it had introduced the third party question and was unable to maintain its original purity, and in the ranks more widespread than may be supposed. The East does not fall into line with the unions of the West. In the union in which the writer is an officer no more than four out of a membership of fifty are for prohibition and suffrage.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union continues to attack the heads of this Government, some of its members will protest very emphatically. Starting the heads of our men, not with the temperance cause, and pronouncing Christian temperance would have better adopted a different method or return to the one on which the original Women's Christian Temperance Union was founded.

A MEMBER OF THE W. C. T. U.  
Richmond Hill, L. I., Dec. 27, 1889.

THE CLERGYMAN AND THE CASHIER.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: I noticed in last Sunday's Tribune that a well-known clergyman is described as resembling remarkably a cashier at No. 154 Nassau-st. This may account for an experience I have had. I live up in the country. Last summer, while I was in the train bound for home, at the station next to mine a lady entered the car, and while I was engaged in conversation I heard some one say "You will not escape me this time." It attracted my attention, and I discovered that it was addressed to myself. The fair traveller rambled on jocosely, taking me to task for slight sins that she imagined I had been guilty of, until fairly out of breath, when I inquired if she had not made a mistake. She was helping the nurse, George T. Curtis, "E. E.", of Orange, and "Ed" Perkins are all in error about Daniel Webster's last words. He did not say "I still live," as Curtis says. Neither did he say "I'm not dead yet; give me some brandy." The doctor came in, turned to the nurse, and said: "I guess he is gone."

There was a moment's painful pause, when Webster died, with a choking voice.

"Not dead yet—the brandy!"  
The humorous gift got it closer than the historian Curtis, but I give it to you with utter accuracy.

CATHERINE RIGDON.  
Marshfield, Mass., Dec. 26, 1889.

EPISCOPAL WORD AMONG HEBREWS.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: The division in your journal concerning the "Christian Hebrew Church" requires, in Justice, that the society thus referred to should be distinguished from another ministering to the same class. Emmanuel Chapel, on Seventh-st., between First and Second avenues, is the Episcopal centre of Hebrew evangelization, caring for all, indeed, with the largest and most varied congregation in the city. The Rev. Dr. Chamberlain is the minister in charge of this ardent church. —J. HERVEY APPLETON.  
New York, Dec. 26, 1889.

THE OLEOMARINE FRAUD.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: I saw in to-day's Tribune mention of a resolution calling on the "farmers of this State to refuse to vote for any candidate not pledged to support a bill prohibiting the sale of oleomarine," etc. It is a mistake, in so far as it relates to "Bill Gordner" (of Depew's story) made experiments with that dog.

The cashier now has enough of life to bear without

resembling a popular clergyman, and I am seriously mis-

tating whether it is not better to adopt the Boulanger or Vandye style of cliff than to follow longer my old trade-mark.

THE CASHIER.  
New-York, Dec. 27, 1889.

## MARIA MITCHELL.

## AS A WOMAN AND AS A FRIEND.

To the Editor of The Tribune.  
Sir: The published accounts and representations of the late Dr. Maria Mitchell already made have been partial only. Little general information is had of her bearing and influence among her peers in Paris, London, Florence and Petersburg, and with Professors Bond, Pierce and Anazas, of this country; as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Promotion of Science; or of her correspondence with Sir John Herschel and Mary Somerville and other notables; or of her public addresses and lectures on scientific, social and moral subjects. Much as has been well and truly accorded to Professor Mitchell in the realm of science, the opinions of the commission at present. The extended report will be issued, in all probability, in about one week after the final experiments had been made at Clinton Prison next week.

The report, he thought, would not be of great length. Certain things had presented themselves which must be altered before the machine could be used to execute human beings. Still these difficulties were not of a serious nature. They were mere mechanical difficulties. There were no inherent defects in the machines themselves. When the machines were once fixed they would remain in perfect order.

"We were satisfied," he continued, "that they will do their work. The horse which we killed weighed about 900 pounds and the calf about 150 pounds. The strength of the current used was about 1,500 volts. The death was almost instantaneous, at least as nearly so as can be expressed by any word. Dr. Fell's experiments as to artificial respiration were of exceptional interest. After cutting open the windpipe he inserted a tube, and then by the use of a bellows was able to induce perfect inhalation and exhalation. It was almost impossible to believe that the animal was not alive, so perfect was the action. But the heart did not beat and life was entirely extinct. Dr. Fell came over from Buffalo at the invitation of the commission. His experiments were most satisfactory.

"You have asked me to give to you some of the characteristic sayings of Professor Maria Mitchell when I was a frequent guest in my father's house during my life as a student in Vassar College. A short time before Charlotte Cushman's death, she, with her intimate friend, Miss Stephen, the sculptor, was dining with Professor Ladd, of the Columbia School of mines, a member of the commission, said that it would be impossible to go into details, regarding the opinions of the commission at present. The extended report will be issued, in all probability,

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A former Vassar student, on being requested to furnish some reminiscences in the line indicated, sends me the following:

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"I had just gone from my examinations, or rather from my final examination, to the dinner-table, when I was seated at the head of the table, and I let my hair down, and my friends said, 'What a nice girl you are!'

"I said, 'I am a Vassar girl, and I am a good girl.'

"'Good girl,' they said, 'but you are not a good girl.'

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